

# MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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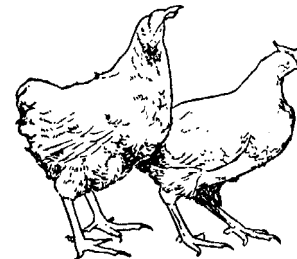
## CHICKENS & EGGS

**Maryland** laying flocks produced 77 million eggs during January 2003, of which 74 million were table eggs and 3 million were hatching eggs. The average rate of lay was 77.8 percent. The average number of layers on hand during January 2003 was 3,217,000. On February 1, 2003, 6.5 percent of the layers in Maryland were being molted and 25.5 percent of all layers had been through a molt.

**United States** egg production totaled 7.34 billion during January 2003, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.25 billion table eggs and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.02 billion were broiler-type and 64.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2003 averaged 338 million, up slightly from a year earlier. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,143 eggs, down 1 percent from 2,170 compared to 2,143 eggs in January 2001.

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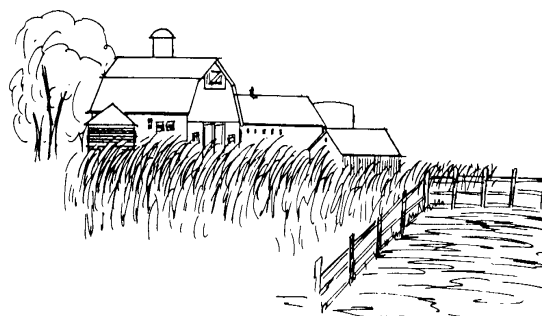
### Eggs and Layers: January 2002 and 2003<sup>1</sup>

Item	2002	2003	2003/2002
<b>Eggs Produced During January</b>	<i>Million</i>		<i>Percent</i>
U.S.	7,264	7,337	101
Maryland	75	77	103
<b>Layers, Average Number During January</b>	<i>Thousand</i>		
U.S.	338,966	338,122	100
Maryland	3,217	3,189	99
<b>Eggs/100 Layers During January</b>	<i>Number</i>		
U.S.	2,143	2,170	101
Maryland	2,331	2,415	104

<sup>1</sup> Revised.

## FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

Total land in farms in Maryland remained unchanged for the fifth consecutive year, at 2.1 million acres. However, there was a drop in the number of farms, from 12,400 in 2001 to 12,200 in 2002. Average farm size is currently 172 acres. The number of farms in the United States in 2002 is estimated at 2.16 million, up 0.1 percent from 2001. The increase in farms occurred primarily in agricultural operations with \$1,000-\$9,999 in sales. Total land in farms, at 941.5 million acres, increased 170,000 acres from last year. The average size of farm at 436 acres, decreased one acre from 2001. The increase in the number of farms and land in farms primarily resulted from the inclusion of pasture only farms in 2002.



NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS: MARYLAND AND UNITED STATES, 1997-2002

STATE	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Number of Farms</b>						
Maryland	13,000	12,500	12,400	12,400	12,400	12,200
United States	2,190,510	2,191,360	2,192,070	2,172,280	2,155,680	2,158,090
<b>Land in Farms</b>						
<i>1,000 acres</i>						
Maryland	2,200	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
United States	956,010	953,500	947,440	943,090	941,310	941,480

## CROP VALUES

Marketing year average prices (MYA) in Maryland were up for most crops, however, value of production was generally lower due to smaller production. The average corn price was up 67 cents a bushel, while the value of the grain produced was 92 million dollars, down 24 percent 2001. Soybeans were \$1.55 a bushel above 2001, while value declined 26 percent to 62 million dollars. The MYA price of wheat was \$3.15 per bushel, up 70 cents from 2001. Value increased to 37 million dollars. Barley was unchanged at \$1.30 a bushel, but value fell 12 percent on lower production. The alfalfa hay price was up \$7 per ton, while other hay generated an average of \$11 per ton more than 2001. Value of alfalfa hay production was down 19 percent, but other hay was up 19 percent. The MYA price of tobacco fell 3 cents per hundredweight, while value was 5.5 million dollars. Potato prices increased, resulting in an 80 cents per hundredweight increase over 2001.

PRICE AND VALUE OF PRODUCTION, MAJOR CROPS, MARYLAND

CROPS	AVERAGE PRICE			VALUE OF PRODUCTION		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
<i>Dollars per Bushel</i>				<i>1,000 Dollars</i>		
Corn for Grain	2.01	2.18	2.85	126,178	121,557	92,055
Soybeans	4.50	4.20	5.75	99,653	84,357	62,158
Wheat	2.10	2.45	3.15	26,460	27,011	37,422
Barley	1.40	1.30	1.30	5,740	4,973	4,371
<i>Dollars per Ton</i>				<i>1,000 Dollars</i>		
Alfalfa Hay	119.00	145.00	152.00	34,034	29,290	23,712
Other Hay	108.00	128.00	139.00	45,900	40,960	48,928
<i>Dollars per Lb</i>				<i>1,000 Dollars</i>		
Tobacco	1.690	1.680	1.650	13,968	5,544	3,927
<i>Dollars per Hundred Pounds</i>				<i>1,000 Dollars</i>		
Potatoes	8.60	8.50	9.30	10,509	9,988	10,928

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Maryland farm operators received more for their crops, beef cattle and hogs in February, compared with January, but broiler and egg prices were lower. Crops prices are all considerably higher than last year at this same time.

Livestock and poultry prices were mostly lower than last February, with exception of eggs which were up 14 percent from February of 2002.

Commodity	Unit	Maryland and Delaware			United States			Parity Price
		FEB	JAN	FEB	FEB	JAN	FEB	
		2002	2003	2003	2002	2003	2003 <sup>1</sup>	
Dollars								
Wheat, Winter	BU	2.62	3.06	3.10	2.75	3.66	3.53	9.63
Corn	BU	2.23	2.82	2.83	1.93	2.33	2.35	6.59
Barley	BU	1.38	1.94	2.06	2.17	2.85	2.85	6.52
Soybeans	BU	4.31	5.75	5.79	4.22	5.52	5.57	14.40
All Hay, Baled	TON	129.00	157.00	163.00	91.70	92.90	91.80	----
Apples, Fresh	LB	-----	----	----	0.216	0.258	0.246	0.486
All Beef Cattle	CWT	72.90	69.70	71.90	70.00	73.20	74.60	160.00
Calves	CWT	92.00	81.00	80.00	105.00	96.80	97.60	215.00
Hogs	CWT	36.00	31.80	34.40	38.50	33.00	34.40	102.00
Milk, Fluid MKT	CWT	15.40	n/a	n/a	13.10	11.80	11.50	33.40
Chickens <sup>2</sup>	LB	0.088	0.080	0.080	-----	---	-----	-----
Broilers	LB	0.345	0.355	0.330	0.340	0.350	0.340	-----
Turkeys, Live	LB	----	----	-----	0.341	0.346	0.345	0.980
Eggs, Market	DOZ	0.471	0.583	0.535	0.336	0.529	0.466	1.58

<sup>1</sup> Mid-Month Forecast, Entire Month Price.

<sup>2</sup> Does not include broilers

\*Revised

INDEX OF U.S. PRICES RECEIVED			
INDEX AND RATIOS	UNITED STATES 1990 - 92 =100		
	FEB	JAN	FEB
	2002	2002*	2003
All Farm Products	99	99	99
All Crops	102	*103	103
Feed Grain & Hay	91	*105	107
Oil- Bearing Crops	77	*99	100
Fruits & Nuts	85	*83	85
All Livestock and Livestock Products	97	*96	95
Meat Animals	93	*93	96
Dairy Products	100	90	88
Poultry and Eggs	100	108	103
Ratio <sup>1</sup>	80	78	78
Prices Paid Index	123	127	127

\* Revised

<sup>1</sup> Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

## APRIL REPORT CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1	2 Broiler Hatchery	3	4 Poultry Slaughter Vegetables
7 Crop Progress	8	9 Broiler Hatchery	10 Crop Production	11
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Reports can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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